American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
July 20, 1928–August 19, 1928

Box Number:	***Folder Number:***
1	18

159 Shantung Road
Sunday, July 20, 28
Tsingtao, Shantung

My Precious mumsie mine + all;

I want to begin early on your letter as the day is pretty full - so I'll write before I go to Chinese service. In my epistle of last Sun. I found I had so discoursed on our side of the news that I had'nt answered yours of June 8 + 11, - the 20th came this week.

So glad you're with Mrs. Mack + all so nicely arranged. It was fine to go with Bud on his rounds! Was glad to hear about the S.D. Convention camp meeting + round-tho sad it rained - yes the Butts' young folks are surely fine! Raleigh still at Willamette? Yes, Lorry, you'd be jumping from frying pan to fire to trade for a farm. It was so good to hear from the Woodburn folks. It was sweet of them to ask about me, + it helps so much to know they are praying! As I've said often - my good in China depends on theirs + your prayers! Such a nice fat letter this week! You asked about Mrs. Seymour. She has been ordered by the Trianstation to get fine + be matron or something like that in the hospital. It's no fun as they need her or now she can live here where her greatest interests are and also feel she is giving still in service to China - + herself not only thru her husband. Trian has a large foreign community + they feel it will be just what she will need here. That was so interesting about the matter of life + the abermaker of all!!

I found a sentence last nite I liked so - speaking of gradual christian life - "But there is something more than most people ever

2. find and that is a <u>basis</u> for laughter "He had found Christ in an experience; he was among the gladdest thing that had ever come to him" She surely couldn't have had an <u>easy</u> time with all those Kiddies - so she must have had the <u>basis</u>! It surely is sweet of your Mummie dear to get the report all ready - you'll find an appalling list enclosed - do with it what you can - I had to make you have all this work, do give all my love & till then I'm simply rushed to death but will write & thank's Mummie precious for all this work. It will save a few friends for me - (not really but it will help me so)

Well, well, Bell has gone to be with her & our loved ones & its a happy meeting they will have! She surely has a life of self-sacrificing service for others to her credit. I know she is happy & so we must be glad too!

Now about the matter I wrote of last. There are a few developments - If it is we but the present plan under discussion is that Miss Ling & her mother rent ½ of the house & I live with them. It would be <u>wonderful</u> - my! I can hardly dare hope - but it won't be settled for a time. Mr. Davies has already given two rooms to Miss Clow & Miss Wang & if they keep them then I'd just live with Miss Ling. I'll feel yet no real way for us to eat together is worked out - if I ate with them, they'd be spending more to come up to what I have to have for health & if they ate with me & paid only part they'd lose self-respect - knowing they weren't paying my

3/ I could live with miss Ling + be matter without any food question - I would be like or even a bit nicer than I get here - living with them (Sings) would be easier + happier than if they had their rooms + their food + I ate in mine - by myself. If I lived with Sings I'd have what they gave me - which would be easier a bit - tho I still hope for some scheme to work out the original plan. If they should come — concerning your coming would have two places, - you'd not feel I am alone + need you + you must come whether or no !! I don't want you to feel that with. — Because if you fear asleep or the cold winter, I don't want a situation here to urge you beyond your own free wisest choice. The second — you'd not have responsibility of managing servants + house when you can't speak Chinese + 3rd miss Ling speaks English beautifully so you'd not be so lonely when I'd be gone. The food I believe you'd like + would satisfy you - but if not you might eat with Mr. Chandler across the court next door. According to this scheme I'd have bedroom in Miss Ling's house + study in Chandlers - a real big sunny room, on S.E. Miss Wang + Chow (2 rooms) miss Ling + matter's 2 rooms + a common livingroom + diningroom + kitchen. I one room there + study at Mr. Chandl's. Chandl has home + family to return to + also still living with Chinese both in country + town. If it can be it will be exceeding abundantly above my wildest schemes or hopes! If she doesn't it may be

4] they will love a little reload down stairs + I'll live upstairs - tho this I don't know + am not very keen about really to live by myself up there - but I hope Julia will go + I think the small rent will appeal to her - I told you she is giving up her position at the girl's reload at 80 - not 30.00 that was a mistake for full time evangelistic work de- pending on just what the master sends her- You spoke about cold winters dear, yes it is colder than Woodburn but not so cold as Alio, am glad you say that this all are willing you should come. Honey dear, I don't want to urge unduly - you do as you feel best - if you did come + something happen to my blessed mumsie I might blame myself - so I want you to feel absolutely at rest about it + sure its the Master's leading!

My! this week has been hot + almost took the starch out of me — I have still walked my 1/2 hr. both days but don't think that hurts me. Besides regular I've got my 500 character items written but not copied - I have more than 500 characters but that's O.K. "Christ the light of world" is my theme - if I can get these 500 off to recognize this week + next I'll be all done except 1000 pages of English reading I'll do in August; I can't be delighted tho!! + oh how I'll play! Mr. Hack has meetings two nites of the Home Fri + Sat. but I went to bed early - this's a time to stop + rest sometimes!

We went up Wed nite for supper; Mr. Forsythe came for me + we had supper a accent at

5] return by the fire orchestra at Hansell's here. Tues. nite has miss Chow + miss Wang here for supper - mrs. Htw had some dishes sent in from a restaurant because our cook was away + his substitute was punk! On Thursday nite - before his work was up - because he felt unhappy for fear his work wouldn't be done properly - Hte came in fairly beaming + so glad to be back! Hte said once he'd like to work for me if mrs. Htw goes to Shanghai - I'd surely like to have him because he's not a christian and is studying so earnestly + trying hard to learn to read etc. I like him so. If there was ever an earnest boy he is. Hte's to be married in two years. Hte said the girl he's engaged to saw him + run across the street not to see him. See that's the old Chinese way to not see the other till after marriage.

Miss Chow + Wang are supposed to come for me to go to foreign church but they haven't come yet - they just brought me a bowl of "chiao tzu" to eat - meat + vegetable ground up + wrapped in a thin piece of dough + cooked in meat broth. They surely are good! My afternoon 'tea' I simply can't get out of the door without eating it. This week were had little green beans + red dates cooked together with much water - kind of soup + its so good the Chinese say its cools the blood + without fail should be eaten in hot weather.

Mrs. Htw is happy she says because I've gotten fat here. I said have no "face" if I came to find "here + not pick on this - but I'll give her "face" alright with my extra pounds.

Ed How lovely all have been to me & really hate to leave. I've promised to come back Sunday a week & I will be glad to.

How good the Master is to us! I surely do praise Him for the happiness the grief & the sweet way He leads us! It's such a privilege to be here & to walk day by day with the Master!

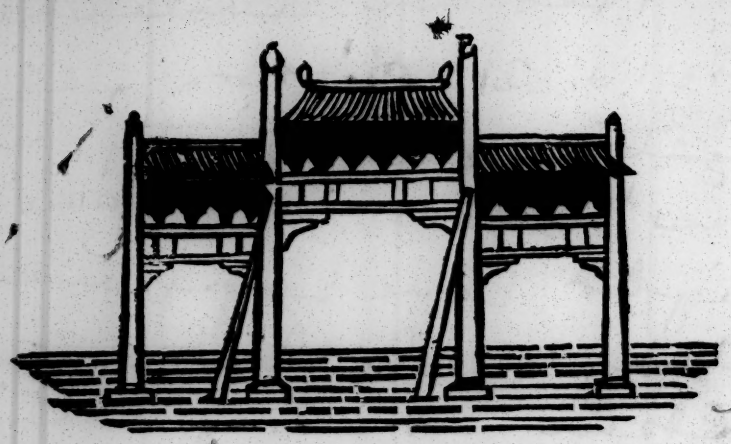
Mrs. Sams has been sick all week - I ought to go out to see her - fever & bronchitis I guess. She's better but still in bed yesterday I told you they'd decided to take a 6 mo. furlough in November, - several reasons enter in - one most important is that her father's getting cataracts & wants so to see the kiddies, they prefer a boy mo. to a yr. & a lot of reasons enter. I wish you could see them don't know where they'll land but if they go to Seattle you might go up - I don't know how much they'll want to travel to side places - but it would be nice for you to see them.

It's church time - the girls aren't here guess I'll have to go on,

Lots of love precious ones & I love you all so much You're just precious to me, Love to all my friends - & Thank them for their prayers -

Your -daughter - glad in His glorious service - love,

Irene,

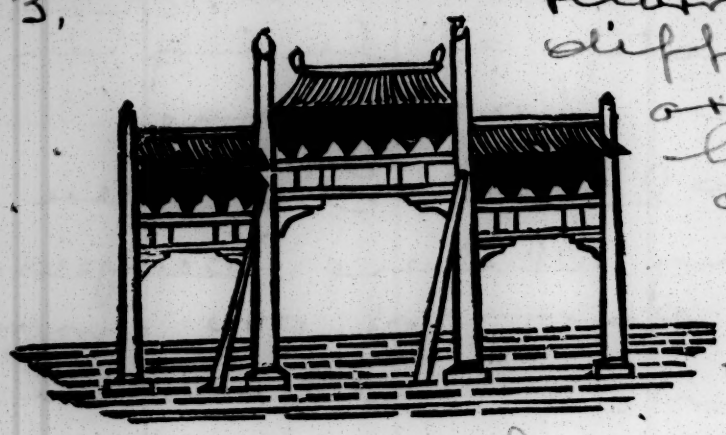


159 Shantung Road
Tsingtao, Shantung
Sunday 15, July '28

Dearest Mumsie tall;
at church is a.m. Mr. Wang said miss clow was here + would come this P.M. to see me - so - I am waiting them, while I wait I'll write - that's how - so I'll have to stop - later; It is now after church + I'm waiting for supper so I'll begin once more to write ___. What a happy day it has been - I am so glad to be here. This a.m. Mrs. Hsu + I went to get a friend of hers who isn't a Christian at all + took her to church, She is a young wife - so pretty! I love to look at her! After church we went third to her house for dinner. They are quite a wealthy family + very; we had good food. Then miss clow came and we had such a fine visit! She is just a dear!! We had a nice visit also was with her a miss Wang, a class-mate at nanking Bible School! She too is nice. Then we all went to church Mrs. Hsu too went with me to foreign service. Mr. Hawks-Pott - (the writer of the book of Chinese History which we have had to study) was the preacher. Seems so funny to hear him preaching. I can't say I like, really care the famous man tho because the German church where services are held is rather lighted for a 4:30 service and the rain which made us seattle some fast was streaming so the church was so dark - I really

couldn't see him well; He's an oldish man - preached on Mark 15:21. Simon + his unexpected interruption of entering the city, being forced to carry Christ's cross. I flew in speculation: was asking what might have happened on the way what conversation + whether the unexpected burden undertaken on compulsion might not by end of way been carried gladly + from this interruption - (he might have been saved as Rufus is mentioned by Paul) Then he spoke of interruptions of Paul's life. Florence Nightingale + then blessing which came from them - applied finally to the present interruptions to mission work in China + the faith that we can have that it will surely bring blessings.

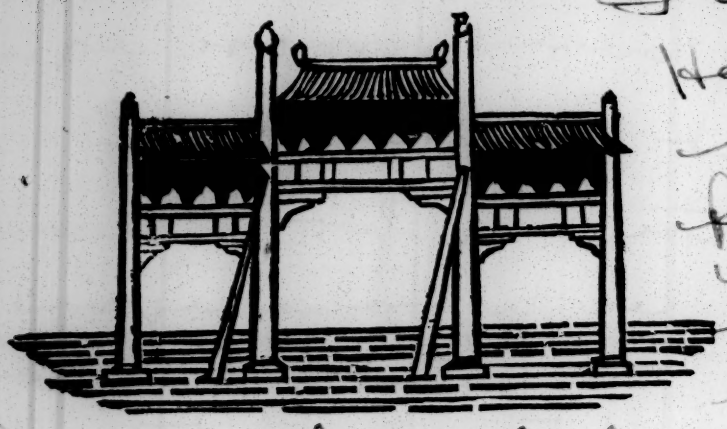
Mrs. Davies after church this a.m. spoke to me about something which I've been thinking of very very much these days - my living place next year - I have decided I don't want to live with a family - because of not being free to have guests at will - This may seem minor to you + it. isn't as nt. but it does matter - especially in hopes of keeping in touch with the China + the friends I have + as well as foreigners - If I were only studying it would be different, But I will be doing more myself next year - + I've felt it already - the desire to be able to invite Chinese friends for food etc. As it is I can only take them to an expensive hotel - which is undesirable for several reasons, to expensive under putting them under responsibility to



return it - also accentuating the difference between what we ordinary do + they! How I'd love to have a servant for country + an extra servant in our flat here would relieve their control might cause trouble etc it — well I had told Mr. Davies before that I did'nt want the Conradt's house (home on furlough) to total alone in — had about decided to try to get rooms next instead — when today Mr. Davies put this up to me — I've asked me about trying the experiment of living in the Conradt house with its two women evangelists — miss Clow + miss Wang. See they work out from Tsingtao + really just as I will need a home to start from etc. This will be a great departure from the post policies — [See mission policy + the difference between living standards of Chinese + foreigners, different put on authority + in fact a whole superior attitude of foreigners to Chinese are at present very much [illegible] made fun from critics + I expect many times justly criticised — not because of intention on part of foreigner but just has grown up — I've felt it so much — of course it is based on alt essentially different standards of living — some foreigners maintaining ours to limit in some points which we could give up — not on cleanliness or hygiene etc — of course those with families have an excuse which I don't, + I have felt I'd like to break away from some things I see — I mean to try to make

I a closer contact with the Chinese. I feel I've gained a lot in this step of living in a Chinese home - not only in language but also in contacts with Chinese & I'm sure it has been so in my getting Chinese viewpoint Well, I feel it can be carried on more in a home by myself or with other Chinese than with other foreigners where it is just a question of space etc - There is a dear ~~infinite~~ limit between going all the way to Chinese standard & ~~trying~~ to relate ourselves to maintain ours. I believe it can be done without one getting queer! and with great advantage to the work. This year especially when effort is being made to give Chinese more authority & put all on a more equal basis, Mr. Flowers remarked that if I'd do it & we'd could manage it it might be a wonderful turning point in relations of the two groups - in principle too - tho it's rarely the way of the reformer is hard — not that I pose as one - but here is a year to try out something & a house at our disposal. It is true they can live on far less than I ever at best - "to keep healthy" that will be a detail to work out just how we'd manage house & food etc.

I had already decided to have Chinese food as I have now & a very simply ~~Chinese~~ establishment - of necessity because I can't afford to buy a lot of household things, & besides my year is temporary and don't want to load up with a lot



5] of pink more than I need! However Julia Ling + Mrs. Li said I could borrow extra furniture from them so that will help out, I won't it to be simple so I can ask humblest pardon + patience with a lot of things - so I'd maybe have the present cook if Mrs. Hsu goes to Shanghai + have extra beds when I can have guests if I want. This is all hazy as yet + that will probably put down in this letter just I'd love to try the experiment! Now of course what all say is keep your foreign contacts + keep up not to get narrow - I know + believe that too!! Well, this P.M. Mrs. Clay who knows the dream in my heart said, "well," if your mother would come + live there to make home + welcome us from country it would be wonderful!!" I wonder that is exactly what I'd need to that balance in all; I know the question of Mother's living here is a big one + when to come + when you can come + all! Well, I am praying most definitely for Mother to lead and to bring you at the right time + prepare way! I still don't say but I feel I report that end as well as this if it will. I say this it would seem the way is opening for us to have a home this year + besides Mother if you were here - it would make a situation (that is living in country all time with certain person + on return too always together which might complicate a bit things) impossible + the chaperon with chinese teachers etc etc - then or it deciding points but

trouble from

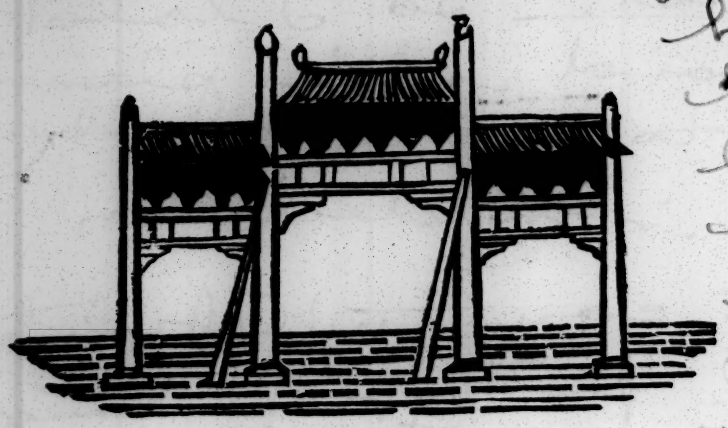
6) factors — that for a year with such a balance we might get a swing over to more equal footing + not yet not go too far. I feel it is immensely worth trying for. I won't mention to joy it would be to have you here — I can't let loose on that for fear of being overpersuasive instead of trying to present facts as are which I'm trying to do! Should that be the master's plan Mumie you too could have a share not more close range at trying to bring about in a real way in our relations + work to Him who need Him! now — as we said before advantages of Linglas over another place for you — third we more foreigners here + possibly should get a servant who knows English — Lastly you could have some fun with Chinese study — Mrs. Chandler + Liddie's Mrs. + Mr. Davies in the same yard for the times we'd be gone — + I'll say frankly you might be lonely then + I might be gone a few weeks or a few days or even at once — in coldest weather I'll be here I believe — I can't but still we because it wouldn't be fair not to. Then there's this fact to be considered. You know Liang asked for me — their woman evangelist is now gone + there's a huge unworked field (I'm not saying this to boast but it does a relation) — The other night when Mr. L. had put in an estimate for me for '32 budget on Linglas list (Mr. Eames) had protested said had no right as it was Temporary for 1 yr. + I still counted on future's budget —

and Mrs. Ramo said last week Tsingtao have a fight to keep me - Now this mean nothing only that it is pretty sure my Tsingtao time may not be more than 1 year! I'd never tell it after wires as it sounds boastful + of course absurd - + I don't mean it as so only as it may color any decisions on your side, I rather lean to interior station because this is a smaller field + more able to man itself with Chine + I don't want to do anything to keep Chine out of what they can do. There room for us to pioneer! so that color the situation too - tho the 4000 clergy in this field without a Christian won't be won in a yr. to safety - who knows - but its pretty sure to be safe here if anyplace + I don't anticipate trouble now. If there was any trouble its pretty sure one could live here more easily than anywhere else - you wouldn't mind a little restriction maybe nursie, I don't think it would really enter in it at all but of course consider it. I really feel Nursie, you're well + you're not old in spirit nor years + you'd enjoy it heaps! There'd be a lot of things coming out this fall! returning by U.S. Board etc, you'd not need to come alone + I could meet you in Shanghai. Your income would be enuf here as there - As I say I believe if this is of God plans there will open up or here for house to be sold etc - without excess luggage you could bring a few things like aluminum. Pan + such of yours to be used + some bedding.

8) How the adventure appeal to you? As I said before all the boys + Eula must consent + not blame it for what ever might come. I mean for my side I don't mean you matter can't move at will without their consent.

Oh, Helen W Whiteaker's father has just died maybe you know. She at Mrs. Eames, I take you I think. She in awful throes of decision - about going home a year - her brother is ill + it is question of finances - Poor kid - my! but she's been brave - strake + she knows absolutely nothing of details. + thinks likely her mother was away on her vacation of 6 weeks at the time. She was preparing to go up to Hurand August 10. I went out + did nite (Margaret her roommate was away) I did not sleep then nite much so I got the alcohol bottle + rubbed + rubbed + prayed I did get to sleep! After a while she slept & then was afraid to stop rubbing her - I surely felt like a master with a young baby! I heard her turn over + all! but she slept till after six without waking! I was so glad!!

Mumsie dear your birthday box 'got off 6 mos late I was so ashamed! I put in various little spices to fill the box. The silk covered triangles are the "tsung tzu" - shape. I didn't tell you about the 5th month festival about all eating rice in triangular form (well cooked in leaves tied) this shape + these are the ones Mrs. Liu brought - silk wrapped tinfoil not rice - The little silk butterfly is what kids in all Peiping wear at that time + the incense in the box is used to put inside them + that is the odour I spoke of their using to keep



"Lois" kind of a bug out of doors! The little lavender bog is an emery bag. The little guest towel is Chinese famous grass linen + Peking crossstitch. I hope you won't have to pay any or much duty -

I have met a Mr. Forsythe in the navy. It is quite interesting. He is from Kansas. His father + 3 or 4 brothers are in the navy also - two up the Yangtze River. He likes a Hodge car best of all + I said he was a true forsythe!! I don't know whether we're related or not - probably way back - I appear to not as far back as Adam - Seems like a decent chap. Went out twice to the home this week - had nice parties both time - last night a big crowd! More come all the time! I think it is worthwhile really!

Besides all regular - all the two weeks are to be full! - want to get off that composition - I had another 15 minute speech last week - not an exam but worked out "Radiant Christian" sermon. This week Mr. Chang of Wen Te Girls School here (Y.M.) came to implore me to teach English full time next year - or half time + do visitation work ½ time. Well, I prayed over it + talked to Mr. D. + I can't see any justification at all for it - I didn't come to teach English + then I'd forget all I know of Chinese + besides the need of Chris

isn't for "English" it is Christ. So I told her no - Mrs Chow said she'd planned to come back again to ask me but I feel absolutely right in my decision unless I couldn't go to the country! Absolutely The Eames are going home for 3yr furlough at end mo in November - & be back in Aug. Her father is getting cataracts & besides they'd planned it before they changed mind so they are planning now to go on. I don't know where they'll land but I'd surely love for you to see them!

Well dearest ones, its late & I'm weary & must get up early! So will close - I would you feel the Lord is planning what I've said & need to speed up any communications - you could write or cable. I write later as soon as this is definite about the house tho its probably so! Mrs. Whitaker is at myrtle Point I think should you want to write,

Had my last shot for typhoid all o.k. wasn't sick at all!

When you get this I'll be at Altus Huk to write c/o Mr. C. M. Eames Altus Huk Tsingtao.

Nite-nite - lots of love dearest ones. All talk this over & see what all of you feel the Master's mind to be & we must be sure of that & will be prepared for His will! I can't let myself think - but will just wait -

Loads of love - As ever - busy to eyes but happy in our dear Master -

Love Sue

159 Shantung Road
Tsingtao, Shantung
Sun. July 29 '28

My Precious loved ones!

Now I am a little over half an hour before time for church service so will begin my letter to be sure to get it off. I am sure if I don't today it will be very late again as the mail runs along. My! what a week this has been - with increased heat, a pile of work & several outside things too!

Monday P.M. I attended my first foreign funeral in China - Mr. & Mrs. Smith's (of Y.M.C.A.) little girl had a sudden attack of toxic poison - on Friday & Sun. 12 noon died. The funeral had to be as soon as there is no embalming here. & she began to color so casket wasn't opened. A carpenter - made the casket & friends covered it with white satin & the inside too with sheered satin & a pillow. The house was full & the minister (Epis.) had a very sweet service. Then the put the casket on a board in back of a car to take it to the graveyard. It is a lovely terraced spot on hillside with so many trees!! It truly shows its international character (first built by Germans) has a $40,000 concrete memorial to a Shantung general, rows & rows of graves used by the Russian in the Greek Orthodox church + like this - + German graves with a stone kind of wall about 6 in" high putting the grave. Then there are simply Chinese graves & American -

2/ Thurs. after classes. I went to see my miss Chiao who has T.B. — Her older sister has returned from the south + brought me a lovely tin of candy- tin with dragon design so pretty - Then also a lacquer tray from Foochow. It is lovely. It surely was sweet of them- I appreciate it so. She dashed out to Huk to invite's birthday party. Had cake + candles + all — we got a car to come home. Wed. I didn't go to school as I had such a lot of preparation + it was late- so I worked my 4 hrs. here at home to get ready to lead chapel + give resumé of the story which just finished, then copied the last of my essay etc - P.M. - Mr. Li came- + I studied here. Thurs. Gave my speech + how the master does help. I praise Him for this present + help. Felt so relieved to get it over- This week exam on 500 char. + Phil. which I've worked on this week - Its so wonderful to be able to read that precious truth in Chinese It is much harder to than John which I've just finished! If I can get thru this character I'll be a free woman + glad — with about 1 credit on the third year work done! This was such a surprise but Mr. L. counted the hours up for me + will have more than 2 yrs, Friday a letter from Board in New York saying Portland Presbyterial has taken the remainder of my support for the year

31. They want one permanently from their own but lacking one they will this year help with mine. Mumsie, please send the country pictures to the mrs. Higgins - my correspondent when you send the report. It won't make much difference in my letters as she's been getting them + using them in Portland - only they will have a definite relation which they didn't before. Fri P. M. took kiddies out to the beach to swim + had such a nice swim.

Yesterday - at noon had Helen + some other friends here for chinese food. Helen leaves this Wed. I hate to see her go but I guess she'll be glad to go. All these 3 weeks she's had no mail from home — + never before has her mail been that long. She thinks someone must be holding it in Shanghai - but why! afraid the time she needs to get mail - especially about her brother's condition! She's surely a brick + been so brave + unquestioning! Mrs. Hu + 2 visited in P. M. till one teachers + wife came to call + incidentally to ask me to be a sort of middleman in finding out why Anita didn't ask him after he'd offered to help her to teach her this August. It was rather a mix-up because it involves "loss of face" which is so essential in China - it is at home only in different language - reputation standing etc - only we don't carry it to the lengths

4] they do. I'll do what I can but that really isn't much I can do but tell him facts.

There last days some people who wish to do "good works" - [She says Buddhists especially expect good works to accrue to their merit] any way they have put up in various places in the streets a box with alkang or water jug filled with hot water in which is a little Kiaking which is cheaper than tea + gives a little red color besides is healthful. These are for the rickshaw men there are about 6 bowls on top for drinking. See although they have to buy hot water or drink unboiled cold water which is dangrous now at this time of year especially! It does do ones heart good to see the gray constantly surrounding them + to know they good deeds for water! It surely is a good work but its too bad for them to be hunting on that for salvation. They have their reword now in folks calling them good + praising their good work!!

I had such an incouraging thing happen last Friday. It was all of the master!!! at a place in the park I constantly pass a beggar woman. I talk to her every day - just friendly + Friday felt it was time to tell her of Jesus. She was sitting on some steps

5] nor a street - as I talked to her a crowd
gathered of men + a few boys. I just kept on
talking and some showed real interest + one
man said to another - "We can understand
what she says." It was just the Master--
for if the ordinary ones on the street can
understand you said it rightly; gone then
are tracts + some of Mrs. Mack's gospels
of John. It was such a joy to think that
they could understand + a couple asked
questions, so I was delighted. oh but it
is such fun to talk to people + sheer joy just
to walk with the master - and I know His
presence. Truly, if we can do any good
at all here it is only as He does it thru us!!
We surely are nothing - oh how often
is the vessel the treasure is in!!
I'm interested in what you said of the offer to
buy the place, It's so nice you + Mrs. Mack have had.
a nice arrangement + are so thankful to Mr. Norman
for his help to you. Please tell him - They are
surely lovely people, I know you're enjoying the
work on the lawn - dark overalls!
Your package ~~slip~~ came in today - mail - I expect
it is the frame. Its so sweet of you to send
it. I surely will appreciate it! Tell your
mom after package comes but I know its
lovely!
Must close now dearest ones - love to
all + how precious all are to me + I just
thank Him for you all. Most lovingly,
Irene

159 Slanting Road
Sunday, Aug. 5, 1928

Dearest Mumie!

Just a note minute before I go to sleep because I must get this note off in morning's mail to tell you "this - so you'll know - Here is a Miss Benton leaving from Tsingtao tomorrow going by San Francisco who will go thru Roseburg & bring you something from me. My letter should reach you first as will go long route & if she mails this in Shanghai (you'll see by the postmark & think of mother) it ought to beat her as she'll be in Los Angeles a few days. I told her you folks would meet her at the train even if it's in middle of nite. I urged her & Miss Moe whom she's taking to put in school in Portland to stop off & they will if possible. I told her to write you when & freely to say she'd stop off & how long. She's of the National Holiness Mission. Known her in Tsingtao all winter She's lonely - you'll enjoy her - This group of holiness people are unusually fine & broad minded & not controversial on the point. She'll speak if you have her over Sunday I expect. I want this note

2 to get you so you'll not be completely lost when you get word to meet a miss Preston. She's very kindly offered to take this thing to you. Please pay her if she's had to pay duty - I'm sure that Land is a big duty in the mails.

I'll write later news of the week - today I've had "cramps" in bed - because I was tired - I've been fine recently tho -

Passed happy birthday in spite. Thanks so for Independent. I just enjoyed it thoroughly yesterday P.M. Ete Happy "mien tiao" - "marconi" - that's chine way to celebrate birthdays. I can't be broken up but must be in long strings so one will have a long life!!

I'll enclose a letter of directions written the other nite about the boxes. I really don't mind if you open them as they may be nicer with light shades than dark!

Nity-nite sweet'ness! Exams! over!!

I'm so glad & weary only to rest for a month - replay.

Lot + lots of love to

all -

Ione

Sun. P. M.
Aug 19, 1928
Altus Hotel -

My dear family!!

Have been here now two days + am feeling better already - really I am + am so happy over it - I met a lady yesterday who said she thought I looked lots better + I am sure I am. Its such glorious fun to be able to play + rest at will + to swim in the glorious old ocean! Mm! Ah my! but I have enjoyed it. The water is so warm now + I'm getting a little distance worked into my swimming - also two terribly burned shoulders - but that's all in the fun! Jimmie is such an adorable baby in the water he knows no fear + loves the water. I had him one day + big waves were coming in - when they hit

2/ he just says mm — with
much the same intonation as
a cat purring. He just loved
it! Took him out for the
arab to dress him + bink he
was for the worse! It's so
cunning! The last few days
a group of the younger people
+ my children - have been
playing with a big ball in
the water + included me, it
was funny yesterday - after I
played with them awhile -
I swam away + came back
+ a lot of older ones had joined
Betty called for them to pass
to me as I was on their side.
+ then remarked "we young
folks" are standing the grown-
ups" Now, I call that
pretty good — here I'm passed
by 30 th birthday (surely
grown up + to be included
in their age !!! I tell you
this "flat + 30" class I'm

3.] eating is some step for me! I don't feel 30 really but it takes my breath to think of it!! Sleep!, my! how I love - more + more at Sun. I was in state of "coma" coming out to eat + swim + return to sleep - I almost sympathized with a bear in winter! Sun, a.m. Mrs. Smith of Tsinan gave a farewell tea at 10:30 for Miss Speer (Rabt. Speer's daughter who teaches at Yenching University) + Miss Wagner also of Yenching. I think she had in a.m. on her porch living room was then cool + shady. We were told to take clothing to dorm we donned + visited + then had refreshments - a most artistic salad too pretty to eat + too good to resist - pineapple slices cut in two + laid to be wings of a butterfly with maraschino cherry for head, two raisins for eyes - feelers of thin strips of red pimento, body of dressing + grated cheese fixed on top as its body, two little green lettuce leaves as its feet + green they were - It was lovely

& with nice dainty sandwiches
She had yellow Japanese tea
set - plates + cups + napkins
with yellow edges - yellow
candles + bowls of nasturtiums
It was very nice. Mrs. Smith is
one of daughters of the early
pioneers of this region Mr.
Corbett.
Wed I had a set of tennis +
another sleep before a swim -
P.M. wrote Ila Etta a long letter -
+ swam again + nite Anita
+ I played guitar + sang -
Thurs. Stella + I played again
+ I read when I came back. P.M.
prayer meeting here, very helpful
message. That nite we were
asked to bring our chairs +
go over to the lawn of a
wealthy Shanghai business
man to hear their fine big
orthophonic victrola — a
wonderful instrument —
They played the 4th Symphony
by Beethoven + a few other

5] awful fine records - "Oh come all ye faithful - sung by 2000 male voices - It was a glorious starry nite + as we sat out on the lawn + watched the stars + listened to this wonderful music - it seemed just lovely beyond description.
Friday p.m. the ladies from Weichsel - who, or living in the house where I'll be next year had a tea + we all went in - + had a nice visit with them + nice chocolate cake + sandwiches to eat -
Sat. the housecleaning-repairing mood was upon me + I pulled out that old pink ruffled georgette + washed + ironed it. I find I can wear it to swim in evenings at home - its too good to wear out - but will suffice for the hot nites.
Sun a.m. went to a class on Jeremiah. It was very good - an Englishman preached! on "the love of God constraineth us"! I forgot

to say that Sat. nite. we went over to matter beach for a picnic. In the afternoon there were swimming races + diving contests, but we missed them. At nite "Pittsburgh's" jazz orchestra made the air horrible with a few wild jazz numbers - but aside from that it was nice. The Philipino band played + there were just scores of fire works - rockets + flowers + lights floating on the water. That part was lovely!

Marie yours of July 15 from Woodburn came. Such a nice long visit. I glad to hear Mother Jorgen had been to Seabeck - + for her report. That's a new coat of paint outside for the church. + new carpet inside it? That's fine! I've been wondering where you'd be this month. So glad you're going to California. That's fine. That's nice you've had a nice visit with the Hanan's + I'm glad they encouraged you

11 to come to China. I fear they'll
give you undue alarm over
my living in Chinese home.
What do you think our
mission members + those who
advised me didn't know what
she said - that I'd be taken
for the Chinese man's wife -
wasn't that it? When Mr.
Johnston + Stathead off the move
he mentioned that especially
because in the interior it
is true + not only of Chinese
but if a single lady lives
in a married couples home
the heathen Chinese often say
the nicest hostile wives so
for that reason single people
live alone - I asked Mrs.
Lewis Henry if principal - born
here is more Chinese than
the Chinese in many ways -
they said at Mo. This couldn't
possibly be. They also went
to miss Ling + asked her for
opinion to be sure. You
see in city its different -
also Mr. Idw has never been

5] home since before I moved there so its impossible as far as this circumstance was concerned. Mr. Davies knew & approved even of my living in a home where the man was home - so you see the place makes a big difference. Don't worry honey, these old times are I know China too + they were waiting!

Its so interesting that your feeling is growing more definite in regard to coming out. Your letter must date about the time I wrote you first of the proposition of coming for the winter - Yes, dear, it must definitely be of God + He must plan,

You asked whether you could make a home for me!

I think I've answered for you part of that question. Most surely you could - however there are several very definite + maybe difficult things to consider

If the main thing as I've said - is the loneliness when I'm away. I can't tell how other years will be - this year so far it would be a necessity to live with the three children - as it looks now - I don't want to over emphasize the loneliness - but it wouldn't be fair for you not to know before hand the possibility of weeks + maybe a month at a time of my absence, in which you'd have here in Islington - two families in the same courtyard + I've noted before the Islington advantages. But dearest, it is as you pay - if it is the Father's leading for you, He will prepare the home + the companions as we must rest in His care + His plans. I don't allow myself to think at how hard it would be to leave you - well just see how it will work out - I'm so glad your plans are

a bit more definite! This way will open up & we know it will be the Boat!! as Mrs. Davies said, the Chins would think it wonderful - they never age so & some can't understand why we leave our parents! "Not in the way Mums precious, at all!! it will be just a question of fitting into circumstances which we have to face. It gave me such joy to read of your thinking of it all. I can't tell you more what it would be like for I can't tell myself yet. But apart from strange language & a different land you see from my letters we lead a fairly normal life as at home, I might send Aunt Callie a dress by Mrs. Eames who goes home in Nov.

I meant to tell you about the Sat. eve. fireworks affair - that there were so many nationalities there - eight or more. It was quite interesting to watch the crowds - Japanese ladies

11 in lovely silk kimonas with the high fantastic hairdress, clinet women in the old style dress trousers + short coats, in the new long kuatzu or coats - some with shiny smooth hair combs of tiny pearl + other with bobbed hair, clinet men with foreign clothes, others in long white grass linen coats, actually a few with queues - besides the usual Russian, Austrian, French, German, etc -
This is Lucy - Mrs. Hsu + the kiddies came out today for dinner + we played in the water + had such fun. Little "meimei" went away out with me + we had lots of fun!
Your letter of July 27 is here, mumsie dear - sorry you got so busy + overheated - I'm wondering how California will use for you in August do be careful! You did have a busy week! + canned fruit + visited + all! I told Anita about the elevenses of berries + she just blinked - as I did when I first heard it, am glad you

12) got it off before the mail;
Well! Sail to the four-door Buick
Sedan! Rising in life! That is
fine. Did you get much for the
old Ford! Memoirs precious, how
do you think I could buy a Ford?
me oh my! what with — I'm not
sure I'd need one just now +
I'm sure I'd not be able to buy
a better car as you suggested.
I don't know enuf about the
roads in our country fields to
know whether it would be
possible to use it + for my
use in the city — I'm not
sure I'd want it or find the
cost of upkeep worthwhile.
no — I'll rickola or walk
for a while yet !! So the place
isn't sold as yet — well, in this
time + way!
Eula's fat letter too came so I'll
enclose a note for her. By my
precious memoirs dear +
lots of love to you dearest
ones; Hope you're having a
good vacation + having a
new infilling of power for the
new year's work!
Most lovingly, Irene